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3731

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: J. Stinson

Examiner: D. P. Erez

Application No.: 10/038,640

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: January 4, 2002

Docket: 792-62 RCE

For: PROSTHESES IMPLANTABLE  
IN ENTERAL VESSELS

Dated: December 13, 2006

Confirmation No.: 9194

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313

Dated: December 13, 2006

Signature: Barbara Thomas

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

This in response to the Requirement for election, mailed November 28, 2006, a reply to which is due one month, i.e., December 28, 2006.

**REMARKS**

The Examiner alleges that the claims are directed towards the following distinct species:

- Species I: as cited in claim 1, is directed towards a stent having first obtuse crossing angle that is substantially the same as the first [sic] obtuse crossing angle.
- Species II: as cited in claims 6, 76 and 84, is directed towards a stent having a second obtuse crossing angle that is larger than the first obtuse crossing angle.
- Species III: as cited in claim 25, is directed towards a stent having a first tubular wall segment with a first number of filaments, a second tubular wall member

Application No.: 10/038,640  
Response to Election Requirement dated December 13, 2006  
Reply to Election Requirement of November 28, 2006  
Docket No.: 792-62 RCE  
Page 2

with a second number of filaments, wherein the second number is less than the first number.

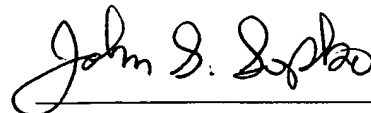
Applicants elect species II, i.e., as cited in claims 6, 76 and 84, which is directed towards a stent having a second obtuse crossing angle that is larger than the first obtuse crossing angle.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 6 and 76-96 read on Species II as defined by the Examiner with claims 6, 76 and 84 being generic within this group.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-2461. Such authorization includes authorization to charge fees for extensions of time, if any, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 and also should be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in this reply or any future reply pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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